

## What's New in New Hampshire Fall/Winter 2010-2011

### *What's New on the Ski Slopes?*

While most skiers and riders were busy enjoying the warm temperatures, New Hampshire's ski areas had a chance to roll up their sleeves and get to work continuing to improve their resorts for guests. This past summer was no different with many improvements made across the state. Following is a list of projects in the Granite State for the upcoming season:

**Cranmore**, North Conway - Cranmore is spending approximately \$6 million on major improvements to the resort. The South double chair will be replaced with a Doppelmayr eco-Drive, energy-efficient, fixed-grip quad chairlift. The existing South chair will be relocated near the Beginner Basin. Terrain in Beginner Basin will be altered to make room for the chair as well as provide additional beginner terrain. The tubing park will be relocated and expanded from seven to ten lanes along with a new Sun Kid surface lift in addition to the existing handle-tow. A year-round Mountain Coaster is being installed that will allow guests to ride up the mountain and then descend at rider-controlled speeds. Other improvements include the installation of 70 new energy-efficient tower guns that will increase the quality and quantity of snowmaking, especially during early season periods. At the base of the area, the Arlberg Lodge is being converted into a state-of-the-art children's center, a new ticketing system will make for smoother transactions for guests, and many other buildings will be upgraded to improve guests' experiences.

**Cannon Mountain**, Franconia Notch - A new double chairlift is being installed at the recently re-opened Mittersill Backcountry Area in the location of the original double chair at the area. This is part of a multi-year, multi-million dollar improvement program. Other improvements include a 9,000 sq. ft. addition to the base lodge, snowmaking upgrades and new grooming machines.

**Attitash**, Bartlett - Over the summer Attitash added a new Mountain Coaster to the resort. The ride carries guests up the mountain over 1,400 feet on twin stainless steel rails. Once at the top, riders descend over 2,800 feet of track through dips, banked turns and straight-aways at rider-controlled speeds of up to 25 mph. The Mountain Coaster is open year-round for guests, which means even non-skiers can enjoy the mountain in winter months.

**Pats Peak**, Henniker - Pats Peak is in the process of spending \$500,000 on improvements, bringing the total spent on improvements over the past six years to \$5.5 million. The snowmaking system will receive twelve new HKD snowguns and six new energy-efficient fan guns. New snowmaking pipe on the Duster trail will allow for a faster opening to the summit of the mountain. Pats' three terrain parks are getting a new PistenBully 400 Park Snow Groomer. At the summit, ski patrol will have a brand-new building complete with a deck and full concrete basement for storage of safety supplies. The rental shop will be home to 500 new pairs of skis and bindings, 400 new pairs of boots and 100 new snowboards. Other additions include new uniforms for the Snowsports School, a new deck for the Alpine Training Center and new carpets in the base lodge.

**Loon Mountain**, Lincoln - Loon Mountain officials have invested \$1.8 million in upgrades for the 2010-11 ski and snowboard season at the New Hampshire resort. While primarily spent on upgraded

snowmaking, improvements this season also touch upon grooming, increased lift capacity and a new zip line.

**Crotched Mountain**, Bennington - A third Pisten Bully groomer has been added to Crotched's grooming fleet, complementing the two Pisten Bully 400 park cats purchased last year. Work is being completed on glades and terrain improvements, and new features are being added to the terrain park. In the lodge guests will find another 5,000 sq. ft. of rubber flooring, expanded seating and an improved view in the Onset Bar, outside heating for the deck and a newly designed cafeteria. The rental shop is home to a new Montana tuning machine.

**McIntyre Ski Area**, Manchester - A new base lodge is being constructed, with plans to be open for this season. The new lodge will be larger than the previous one and will offer more amenities, including the Mac Bistro, featuring special coffees, teas, local pastries, sandwiches, soups and more.

**King Pine and Purity Spring Resort**, East Madison - Continued improvements to the snowmaking system include the addition of 57 energy-efficient tower guns and two new electric compressors, resulting in a 40% increase in pumping capacity. Other improvements include new food service equipment, additional rental shop inventory and upgrades to the lodging facilities.

**Wildcat Mountain**, Pinkham Notch - Improvements to the snowmaking system will continue with integral pipe replacements that will enhance the system's capabilities. New trail mapping will acknowledge two additional trails --"Leo's Leap" and "Sphynx"-- as well as identifying established tree ski areas that had only been proposed in the past. The base lodge will see improvements including the availability of WiFi for guests. On October 21, Peak Resorts announced that it acquired Wildcat Mountain. Peak Resorts also owns Attitash Mountain; and now Wildcat and Attitash – two of Mount Washington Valley's largest ski resorts – will offer combination ticket and season pass products.

<http://news.alpinezone.com/84071/>

**Black Mountain**, Jackson - The snowmaking system will see the addition of new energy-efficient tower guns on several trails and the installation of air reduction kits that will reduce the amount of air required for operation by 50%, resulting in a more eco-friendly system.

**Mount Sunapee**, Newbury - The South Peak Learning Center will get a third carpet lift to complement the quad chairlift, beginner terrain park and glades.

**Granite Gorge**, Keene - This winter skiers and riders can enjoy the new "Lab" terrain park thanks to the addition of lighting and snowmaking to the Sunset Trail. The base lodge is being expanded with a new locker facility. The rental shop is being expanded and will now include "learn-to-ride" snowboard packages.

**Ragged Mountain**, Danbury - Guests visiting Ragged Mountain will be welcomed by a new bag check area. Once on snow, they'll find expanded snowmaking, additional glades off of Exhibition Trail and a new recreational race course that will be open to all guests Wednesdays-Sundays.

**Balsams Wilderness**, Dixville Notch - The Balsams Wilderness will be partnering with Golf and Ski Warehouse to operate retail stores at the ski area and resort. This will ensure guests have access to any equipment they may require during their visit. The Balsams is one of the Grand Hotels/Adventures of

northern New Hampshire's [NH Grand](#), the official visitor information source for the Great North Woods and the Northern White Mountains.

### ***Lodging/Restaurants:***

**Indian Head Resort, Lincoln** – Named “Editor’s Pick” for Family Friendly Resorts by New Hampshire Magazine for 2010. Nestled in the White Mountains with picturesque views, the resort offers a perfect start to the holiday season. The resort’s “Olde New England Thanksgiving Package” includes lodging, meals – featuring a traditional Thanksgiving Day dinner, Cut your own Christmas Tree opportunity and more. Guests can enjoy some of the best skiing, boarding and snowmobiling in the east. There’s also onsite cross-country skiing, skating and tubing. The heated outdoor pool and hot spa is open all winter. Indian Head has year-round activities for guests of all ages. 603-745-8000; [www.indianheadresort.com](http://www.indianheadresort.com)

**Mountain View Grand Resort and Spa, Whitefield** – Consistently named a 4 Diamond Hotel by AAA for its lodging and dining, the MVG offers amenities for every season, including spa facilities, equestrian services and golf. The resort has also recently added a 121-foot wind turbine, which will generate half of its electricity needs. This new improvement makes the MVG one of the “greenest” properties in New England. 603-837-2100; [www.mountainviewgrand.com](http://www.mountainviewgrand.com) Mountain View Grand is one of the Grand Hotels/Adventures of northern New Hampshire’s [NH Grand](#), the official visitor information source for the Great North Woods and the Northern White Mountains.

**New Residence Inn by Marriott, Portsmouth** – Located in the heart of downtown Portsmouth, the eco-friendly Residence Inn allows guests easy access to local shops, museums, parks and numerous restaurants. The opening of the hotel marks the completion of Phase 1 of the Portwalk Project – a planned pedestrian-friendly development that will also feature boutiques, cafés, luxury residences and downtown office space. 603-422-9206; <http://marriott332-px.trvlclick.com/hotels/travel/psmdt-residence-inn-portsmouth-downtown/>

**Snowy Owl Inn, Waterville Valley** – The inn named “Best Family Retreat in New Hampshire” by Yankee Magazine has recently completed renovations in the 25 rooms on its second level. Improvements include new furnishings, mattresses, televisions, decorations and the addition of several king Jacuzzi suites. A 3,000-square-foot patio also has been added, and it is a beautiful setting for receptions and parties. 603-236-8383; [www.snowyowlinn.com](http://www.snowyowlinn.com)

**The Common Man Inn & Restaurant, Claremont** – On the banks of the Sugar River in two historic renovated mill buildings, Common Man Claremont features 35 unique Inn rooms and Common Man restaurant. Newly renovated event space is able to hold up to 200 guests for a banquet. Uncommon buffet and plated menus prepared by the Common Man Claremont chef. [www.theCmaninn.com](http://www.theCmaninn.com)

### ***Attractions:***

**Zipline Attraction at Cranmore Resort, North Conway** – Already in the midst of a \$5 million renovation, Cranmore is building a zip line featuring four 400-foot-long rope segments at varying heights between 30 and 60 feet. At the end of each segment, riders will exit onto an elevated platform before continuing on to the next segment. The zip line will also feature a ropes course component between some of the segments. The ride will be located on the Zip's ski trail, between to the South and North slopes.  
<http://www.cranmore.com/>

**Lakes Biplane, Laconia** – An exciting new business has flown into the Lakes Region of New Hampshire providing guests with an exhilarating new thrill - open cockpit flying over the lakes and mountains. Based at Emerson Aviation at the Laconia Airport, pilot & owner Phil DiVirgilio, invites you to take a ride with him in his WACO Classic YMF-5 Super. Guests get to soar with the wind in their hair and bask in the sunshine while taking in the spectacular 360 degree panoramic views.  
<http://www.lakesbiplane.com/index.html>

**Conway Scenic Railroad, North Conway** – The newly rehabilitated 48-passenger 1948 dining car, named the Hattie Evans, is now one of two dining cars offered to groups on scheduled trains. For groups that have a tight schedule, the Budd Car is available for charter. Visitors can ask about the Budd stopping at the White Mountain Cider Company for hot cider and donuts. One way train rides are also available. 603-356-5251; [www.conwayscenic.com](http://www.conwayscenic.com)

### ***NH Parks:***

**Gilson Pond Campground at Monadnock State Park** – The New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation in August celebrated the grand opening of the newest state park campground, Gilson Pond Campground at Monadnock State Park. This is the first new campground built by the Division of Parks and Recreation in 40 years. Gilson Pond Campground replaces a 21 site campground at the headquarters area that was built in 1935. This new campground at the Gilson Pond area has 40 camp sites including 5 walk-in sites, a new playground, and a new bathhouse. The campground at the headquarters area will be used for youth group camping. <http://www.nhstateparks.org/>

**Hampton Beach, Hampton** – Phase Two of the \$14.5 million redevelopment project at Hampton Beach — the construction of a new Seashell Stage Complex — has begun, with the demolition of the bathrooms, Chamber of Commerce and state park offices as well as the stage. The buildings, which have been there since 1962, are set to be replaced by state-of-the-art ones that officials say will revitalize the beach. The project will be worked on through the winter and summer with a completion date of November 2011.

### ***Arts & Culture:***

**Currier Museum of Art, Manchester** – This winter the Currier hosts the New Hampshire Art Association's 62nd juried exhibition at the museum, continuing its commitment to artists from our communities. The Association features work by accomplished regional artists as well as talented emerging artists, and the exhibition is open to all media, including painting, watercolor, photography,

and sculpture. The museum is able to accommodate groups of up to 60 for tours and lunch in the Winter Garden Café. 603-669-6144; [www.currier.org](http://www.currier.org)

**Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, Holderness** – The Squam Lakes Natural Science Center has just opened a new exhibit featuring a collection of intricately carved and hand painted life-sized birds. The 80 carvings representing 74 species of fresh water and ocean birds are part of a collection of 241 pieces donated to the Science Center earlier this year by Joyce and Marty Briner. Also, the Center was recently awarded a grant to support “Access for All,” a program to provide access to the main Gephart Exhibit Trail for elderly and physically challenged people who have difficulty walking.

<http://nhnature.blogspot.com/2010/07/new-exhibit-here-at-science-center.html>

**Children’s Museum, Dover** – The Children’s Museum of NH will hold its annual Family Mardi Gras Celebration Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 12-5pm. This colorful celebration features entertainment, refreshments and activities for children of all ages. The Family Mardi Gras Celebration will include *live* Cajun musical performances, regional foods of New Orleans to sample, and children's parades through the museum led by museum mascot Albert, The Costumed Alligator. Children can make Mardi Gras masks and jester hats, and each visitor will receive a strand of colorful Mardi Gras beads to wear and take home. [www.childrensmuseum.org](http://www.childrensmuseum.org)

#### ***Culinary:***

**Restaurant Week Portsmouth, Portsmouth** – November 4<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, this delectable week features special 3-course prix fixe menus: lunch \$16.95 per person, dinner \$29.95 per person at participating restaurants throughout Portsmouth and the Seacoast. Restaurant Week Portsmouth is a bi-annual event that spotlights Greater Portsmouth as a culinary and cultural destination. Wine & dine, shop & gallery hop, visit the theatre, and make it a getaway. Area hotels and inns offer special rates & packages during the event. Participating restaurants include: Black Trumpet Bistro, Blue Mermaid Island Grill, Café Mediterraneo and The Carriage House.

<http://www.portsmouthchamber.org/restaurantweek.cfm>

**Holiday Tapas Tasting, Concord** – Visitors are invited to journey into the Mediterranean with the award-winning Co-op Celery Stick Cafe chefs. They will sample delectable tapas while listening to live Spanish jazz. [www.concordfoodcoop.coop](http://www.concordfoodcoop.coop)

**Culinary Retreat, Wakefield Inn, Wakefield** – The Wakefield Inn offers hands-on cooking retreats during the fall and winter season, such as 'Thanksgiving Boot Camp'. Guests who have always wanted to be a professional chef will learn to cook a five-course meal with classically trained Chef Janel Martin. She will teach the basic skills needed to be able to recreate what you will learn, as well as create your own unique dishes. Each weekend package includes 3 nights lodging in uniquely decorated rooms, gourmet breakfast, 4 two-hour classes of hands-on learning, each with a meal to follow, and loads of recipes to take home and impress family and friends. <http://www.wakefieldinn.com/packages>.

#### ***Fall/Winter Events & Activities:***

**Muddy Paw Sled Dog Kennel, Jefferson** – The Kennel is comprised of 86 sled dogs, ranging from racing Alaskan Huskies, to more traditional breeds like Siberians and Malamutes. Regardless of breed, these dogs all share common traits of friendliness towards people, the love of running, and an athletic & competitive nature. The Kennel has some new offerings this fall/winter season:

The “Mush-Inn Longest Dogsled Ride in the North East: An overnight, inn-supported adventure traversing nearly 50 miles of trail. Visitors can experience the Grand North from behind a dogsled team. This is one of the Grand Adventures of northern New Hampshire’s [NH Grand](#), the official visitor information source for the Great North Woods and the Northern White Mountains.

The 15-22 mile Pond of Safety Dogsled Trip

<http://www.dogslednh.com/>

**New Hampshire Orchid Society’s 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Show & Sale, Nashua** – The NH Orchid Society’s 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Show and Sale will be on Valentine’s Weekend, February 11 through 13th at the Radisson Hotel in Nashua, NH. In honor of its 20<sup>th</sup> orchid show, the Society has chosen the theme “Celebrate Orchids”. With over 2,000 orchids on display, both locally grown by hobbyists, and nationally recognized professionally cultured plants, there will be much to see. Exhibits will also include cut flower arrangements and orchid related artwork. For more information, call: 603-659-4661

**NH Open Doors, Statewide** – NH Open Doors, a statewide touring and shopping event for all ages, will be held on November 6 and 7. Guests can visit and shop at the open studios of New Hampshire craftspeople and artisans, local farms, orchards, wineries, and retail shops and galleries filled with NH-made products. [www.nhopendoors.com](http://www.nhopendoors.com)

**Christmas at The Fells Biennial House Tour, Newbury** – The historic architecture at The Fells in Newbury, New Hampshire becomes the perfect setting for this biennial holiday event. The Main House will be delightfully trimmed for the season and open for touring from 10am to 3pm on Saturday and Sunday, November 6 and 7 as well as November 13 and 14. The theme for this biennial event is “Santa’s Workshop”, with talented area decorators each transforming a different room in the house. [www.thefells.org](http://www.thefells.org)

**Nashua’s First Festival of Trees, Nashua** – Visitors are welcome for Nashua’s first ever Festival of Trees, November 26 through December 4, featuring beautiful Christmas trees, donated and decorated by local businesses, individuals and organizations. Guests can also shop in the gift shop and check out the raffle and silent auction items. [nashuafestivaloftrees.com](http://nashuafestivaloftrees.com)

**“Christmas Around Franconia Notch”** – Christmas 2010 promises to be especially magical this year as the chambers of commerce of the Western White Mountains participate in highlighting the best of what each offers. “Christmas Around Franconia Notch” is a collaboration of the regional chambers, with an emphasis on the many exciting and traditional activities and special events planned for the holiday season, November 26-December 24. Of special interest this year is the “Inns & Arts” tour in early December that will pair the area’s best artists with local inns and bed and breakfasts, providing the opportunity to learn more about the artists and host properties. “Christmas Around Franconia Notch”

culminates with Christmas Eve and candlelight services in the area's historic and traditional churches and chapels. [www.FranconiaNotch.org](http://www.FranconiaNotch.org).

***Special Deals/Packages:***

**Cranmore Mountain Lodge, North Conway** – Offering its “Shop Till You Drop” Black Friday package. Located just five miles from Settlers’ Green Outlet Village Plus, this package includes a two night stay for two, (same rate weekdays or weekends), Full country breakfast cooked-to-order each morning, Afternoon refreshments (served on Friday and Saturday only), A fashionable brightly colored purse, a shopping survival kit, full of coupons, small gifts, energy bars, samples and more from stores and area restaurants. Packages start at \$240 for two. <http://www.cml1.com/shoptilyoudrop.html>

**In Manchester, the Country Inn & Suites By Carlson, Manchester Airport** is offering its “Black Friday” package. Package includes accommodations in a one-bedroom suite with one king or two queen beds, \$50.00 gift card to Bugaboo Creek Steakhouse, as well as shuttle service to the Mall of New Hampshire and a Welcome Gift Bag. Late check-out 2PM. Packages starting at \$145 for two. Available November 26th for 2 nights. 666-4600 ext. 1. [www.countryinns.com/manchesternh](http://www.countryinns.com/manchesternh)

**The Highlander Inn, Manchester: “Black Friday Shopping Frenzy Package”** – Package includes overnight accommodations in a deluxe room for two and a breakfast to go. Guests will receive a Black Friday Sales information and Coupon Booklet for the Mall of NH stores, and free shuttle service to and from the Mall of N.H. Shuttle will leave as early as 4am and pick up at 8am Friday morning. Valid: 11/26/2010 only. \$109.99 plus tax. Call 800-548-9248 or visit [www.highlanderinn.com/](http://www.highlanderinn.com/)

**Portsmouth Brewery, Portsmouth: Free Smuttynose Brewery Tours** – November 26 at 3pm and November 27 at 11am. The tours provide a great way to avoid the madness of the annual shop-a-palooza. Casual beer sampling as well as a limited retail selection. This is the third year that Smuttynose has received the Best American Real Ale Award by the Great British Beer Festival. <http://www.portsmouthbrewery.com/>

**Candlelight Inn, Bradford: Holiday Shoppers Weekend**, November 26-28. The Tanger Outlet Center-Tilton will hold its 4th Annual Magic of Midnight Sale Thanksgiving evening. On Friday, November 26th, the stores will be opening at midnight and remain open until 9PM. On Friday evening at the Inn, guests can unwind from a hectic week with hot buttered cider and holiday sweets. After breakfast on Saturday morning, it's a day of “tax free” shopping. The Inn will provide a voucher for a free Tanger Outlet-Tilton coupon book—worth over \$350 of savings. [http://www.candleliteinn.com/packages/id9.htm#holiday\\_shoppers\\_weekend](http://www.candleliteinn.com/packages/id9.htm#holiday_shoppers_weekend)

**Thanksgiving Weekend at the AMC Highland Center and Joe Dodge Lodge in Pinkham Notch** – Here's a chance to discover the history of the Northern Forest while having fun – and enjoying a terrific meal – with the children. Colonial American Thanksgiving Weekend at Joe Dodge Lodge or the Northern Forest Heritage Days at the Highland Center includes three days of Northern-Forest-themed activities. At the Highland Center guests will enjoy a colonial and Native American-themed weekend. In addition to highlighting local artisans and musicians, visitors will share the bounty of a Thanksgiving dinner, including regional offerings and locally sourced fare as available. [www.outdoors.org/lodging/thanksgiving-weekend.cfm#colonial](http://www.outdoors.org/lodging/thanksgiving-weekend.cfm#colonial)



## ***Awards & Honors***

**Smuttynose Brewery, Portsmouth** –Smuttynose Brewery’s Big A IPA as the best American real ale has been recognized once again at this year’s Great British Beer Festival. This is the third time Smuttynose has received the award, known as the Michael Jackson award after the legendary beer writer. Smuttynose, based in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, is now the most successful brewer in the competition's history. <http://www.thepublican.com/story.asp?storycode=67653>

**VisitNH.gov Wins Top Website Award** – The New Hampshire state tourism website has been given a “Top State Tourism Website” award by Juggle.com. According to the editors for Juggle, “this year’s recipients applied creative design, innovative web technology, and helpful resources to make finding information easier for US travelers.” The 2010 winners were selected for their dedication to tourist engagement and economic development through outstanding web portals. <http://www.juggle.com/new-hampshire-top-state-tourism-website>

## ***Miscellaneous***

**New Hampshire Grand** – “Grand Resorts, Grand Adventures” is the new brand of New Hampshire’s North Country marketing initiative – also known as NH Grand. It is the official visitor information source for the Great North Woods and the Northern White Mountains. NH Grand is a collaborative marketing initiative among the three grand hotels located in Coos County – Mountain View Grand in Whitefield, The Balsams Grand Resort in Dixville Notch, and Omni Mt. Washington Hotel in Bretton Woods. To complement the Grand Resorts are the equally Grand Adventures located in the Great North Woods and Northern White Mountains, including: High Huts of the White Mountains, Snowmobile Highway, ATV Adventures, Mt. Washington, Tuckerman Ravine, Northern Forest Canoe Trail, Team O’Neil Rally School, Bretton Woods Canopy Tour, Santa’s Village, Dog Sledding, and North Woods Rafting. [www.nhgrand.com](http://www.nhgrand.com).

**NH Division of Travel & Tourism’s Franco-American Tour, Manchester** – Visitors have a brand new itinerary to discover what life was like for the people who came here from Canada and other countries to start new lives. As French Canadians began moving into the communities, neighborhoods began to absorb a French flavor. These areas were called “Little Canadas” and consisted mostly of French and Catholic families. The new Franco-American Tour will take visitors back in time to the 1880s when these immigrants’ new lives were just beginning. <http://www.visitnh.gov/planning-and-travel-tools/itineraries/historical-itineraries.aspx>

**NH Division of Travel & Tourism’s Retro Tour, Statewide** – For those who may have wondered what it was like to travel beautiful, rural state highways and local roads before the interstate system was built, New Hampshire’s Route 3 Retro Tour is the answer. This new itinerary takes visitors through 122 miles of gorgeous byways between Tilton and Pittsburgh where they will get the chance to experience affordable 1950s & 60s-era, owner-operated motels, motor courts and attractions. <http://www.visitnh.gov/planning-and-travel-tools/itineraries/culture-itineraries.aspx>



**White Mountains Attractions Association, Lincoln, NH** – The WMAA has added a new group tour planning resource to its website: <http://www.visitwhitemountains.com/group-resources/default.aspx>

**Lakes Region Association, Tilton, NH** – The LRA has added a new group tour planning resource to its website: <http://www.lakesregion.org/Default.aspx?alias=www.lakesregion.org/groups>

